

The Columbus Weekly Courier

Editor & Publisher, William Miller. **Editor**

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1920.

JAMES M. COX



James M. Cox, whose likeness appears above, is the standard bearer of the Democracy of today as well as of all precedents. As the campaign advances, the assurances of the election of Cox and Roosevelt have been made certain.

FUSION.

As predicted by the Courier, the Albuquerque Morning Journal, one of the largest morning newspapers in the state and also one of the most independent republican organzations, G. O. P., ever possessed, has "flipped" from the first page to the last from Mechem to Hanna. Republicans (the statuaries) are dumbfounded. The latter pleased following the Journal and the New Mexican's advice and are not only "lapping" with the newspapers but are urging their friends to do likewise. That this class of republicans are rising with the minority democrats to make New Mexico clean is the truth. Burren and his crowd must go. The republicans can't do it within their own ranks, the democrats have not been able to turn the trick but that Burren and his crowd are on the banner and going down fast is the one sure fast causing smile of satisfaction in the people of this state.

BE PRUDY, SHT.

The coal mines of New Mexico have an assessed value of \$3,977,000. In 1918 these mines produced 12,430 net tons of coal. If these coal mines were paying taxes at the same rate you and I are paying, the state would receive \$350,000, where it now receives only \$6000.

In the last seven years these mines have produced and sold more than 26,250,000 net tons of coal valued at \$10,000,000 which, at the same rate, Loco county pays, would have paid more than half of the state debt which in 1918 was \$2,000,000.

If these mines were assessed at their true value and paid the same rate of taxes as that paid in Loco county the county would have paid its treasury a balance of \$120,000 each year.

Let all vote the democratic ticket this year and get this thirty thousand net tons discount. The republicans will not do it as the bosses if selected will not let them. So your only chance to get this CASH DISCOUNT is to elect every Democrat on the ticket.

If you are wise, you will do this. What do you say?

THAT "GRUDGE."

(Santa Fe New Mexican.) With the usual obliquity of news-paper organzations which find it necessary or expedient to support the candidates of the members of the "renegade" organization, the publications in New Mexico have supported Judge Mechem for governor and refuse to discuss the big outstanding issues of the campaign.

The liaison between the people and the corporate politicians, between the republican party and the small group who have or long enjoyed it. An attempt has been made in every quarter to refute the factual stories which Judge Hanna has been driving home to the audience of the state; an attempt to deny that Me. G. Mechem was nominated in direct defiance of the state constitution; an attempt to deny that candidates have been picked for the state seats openly committed to the interests of the China Copper company and other corporations, no attempt to expose the well-known

fact of Judge Mechem's close affiliation with W. O. Burren; no attempt to expose the fact that the state convention was overruled by Laramore or that he was defeated in desperation and refusal of the convention because he was pledged to make the China and others pay their taxes.

Instead, these papers are openly denouncing the New Mexican for the personal grudge against Judge Mechem.

It is necessary to repeat that the New Mexican is not resorting to personalities in this campaign. We hereby cast it stating that Mr. Mechem is a personable little fellow, personally he has many friends. His official record and his political affiliations are smoothing separate and distinct. They are public property and it is due the public that it be kept entirely familiar with them. Only by deceiving the voters as to these qualifications could the bankers hope to get him into office.

A number of untrue statements have been published to the effect that Judge Mechem sent the editor and publisher of the New Mexican to jail and forced it to pay a heavy fine penalty. As the public is aware, those statements are quite false. It may be well to set the record straight here and now. Later we shall go into further details. The fact is that the New Mexican convicted Judge Mechem of seeking to abuse the power of his office for political purposes. It became necessary for the state supreme court to reelect Judge Mechem for his illegal and unconstitutional attempt to establish a precedent whereby in newspaper in New Mexico could expose the records of political bosses and their puppets. It was held up all over the United States in the press as a judge who tried to misuse his office as a result of his political entanglements. The New Mexican and the press of New Mexico was a complete victory and Judge Mechem injured his official reputation. Naturally the losses in this little engagement is the one who might be expected to have the grudge. Whether Judge Mechem is still "sore" we are not informed. Fully realizing Judge Mechem's political obligations we have never questioned his loyalty to his political friends although we have never admired his discretion. While we sympathize with him in his unfortunate predicament, we could hardly help being gratified at the opportunity to demonstrate so publicly and convincingly the methods of Mr. H. O. Burren and his group and at the chance to score so complete a victory over the man who attempted to stop the mouths of independent newspapers in this state.

We believe that all friends of Judge Mechem will concede that he is not the kind of a man to hold a grudge against. Certainly he was not officious such an imposing figure in his late judicial difficulties as to assume important responsibilities of the Majority of the Law. The whole episode was entirely entangling and would have been pure opera buffa save for the serious issues underlying it. It now becomes of deep interest to the voters, not an account of any part the New Mexicans took in the incident, but as throwing the spotlight on the political character of the candidate for the highest office in the state.

The democratic repudiation of this state, men with a high sense of honor, are flocking to Judge Hanna and the democratic party, because they have despaired of ever extricating honest and just laws and the honest and just administration of state affairs, until the old republican ring is wiped out.

The democratic party should not be gauged solely by its candidate for office, although there is not one name on the ticket who is not a credit to the party, but by the principles laid down in the promises of the platform, and the records of the past, which records what no man may say.

Vote the ticket straight or you will tie the hands of Judge Hanna and defeat the high aims of the democratic party in the State and in the Union.

THIS IS MID-SLINGING.

It is highly important that the democrats win. Judge Hanna says in his campaign in order that the legislative districts may be redistricted on a fair basis of representation. He shows that when the constitution was framed, the state was so districted that, for example, San Miguel county controls three of the senators, Socorro county three, and the little County of Sandoval two, giving to three these counties eight senators out of the twenty-four representing the twenty-nine counties of the state. He also shows that when the constitution was framed, while Claver county with then only about 1000 voters was given one senator, while Chaves county with more than 3000 voters was given only one senator.

This is Mid-slinging. Judge Mechem who is the candidate of the republican machine in New Mexico, is urging the voters to support him on the ground that if Judge Hanna should be elected the legislature will be republican and that, therefore, Judge Hanna can accomplish nothing because his legislation will not support him. This is a confession that the legislature is not expected to support the republican platform enunciated at the Albuquerque convention this year, which envisions essentially every plank of the democratic platform put forth at Las Vegas. The republican leaders are pointing to their enemies—but their candidate for governor is depicting that the legislature if elected will not support those enemies.

This is Mid-slinging. Judge Mechem seems to think the members of the republican state platform do not apply to the party, if he is defeated for governor. And the leaders are as pleased their confessions for the results that the premises will be disregarded by

the members of the republican state platform. The members of the democratic party must stand and only its governors, and the whole state thinks but it must also elect a majority of both houses of the legislature. Thus Judge Hanna says, can be done the respects.

IMPORTANT TO VOTE STATEWIDE

This succeeded by resolution from all parts of the state that Judge Richard H. Hanna will be the next governor of New Mexico. But this election alone will not help matters for unless the state legislature is dissolved Governor Hanna will have no power to make any changes in the laws and rules in the several plazas.

Unless democratic members and congressmen are elected in the United States Congress, President Cox will be powerless to give to the people of the United States the legislation they desire.

If you believe in the principles of democracy, then it is as much your duty to vote the straight democratic ticket as it is your duty to observe the laws of your country, for your beliefs in the laws of the democratic party, advocates and these laws cannot be enacted unless there is a democratic majority in the state legislature and in the congress of the United States.

You believe in equitable and just tax laws and in the just and equitable distribution of the taxes and you know that your taxes have been unusually high, but did you know that there were hundreds of thousands of acres of land in the heart of New Mexico—alone the Rio Grande Valley—that have never been on the tax assessor's books and have never paid one cent of the taxes of this state? This is a fact that the republican party of New Mexico does not deny, for the proof is patent to all.

Did you know that there were mining properties in this state that have not paid their just proportion of the taxes? There are hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of taxable mining properties that have not paid anything like their just proportion of the taxes, and yet the people of Columbus, who have been paying exorbitant taxes, have in very recent times been checked by a republican tax commissioner to see if it were possible to raise the taxes here.

These people who have been tax-dodging since New Mexico became a state, from the backbone of the republican party, and from the time they gained control of the state it has been a game of "you tickle me and I tickle you," and in this way they have been able to hold the balance of power and defeat the popular's wishes.

The tax dodging bosses of the republican party have put out a ticket, so publicly and convincingly the methods of Mr. H. O. Burren and his group and at the chance to score so complete a victory over the man who attempted to stop the mouths of independent newspapers in this state.

The prominent repudiations of this state, men with a high sense of honor, are flocking to Judge Hanna and the democratic party, because they have despaired of ever extricating honest and just laws and the honest and just administration of state affairs, until the old republican ring is wiped out.

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EPILO



Kate, the blind interpreter of the American Red Cross commission to Albania, is reported by the natives to have the "sweet tongue of Albania." She is said to speak 18 languages, and all of them "slang."

Judge Hanna should win. The only way to reform New Mexico is to smash the Hanna machine.

For last the republican newspapers charge Judge Hanna with mid-slinging. He does not go outside the polls to stand. If that is true, it will have to be along in large gabs—AND IT WILL.

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